

## Wolves

In Session One, we discussed the lack of support for the high calling of parents and grandparents in our society and even in many churches. The role of family leaders seems to be just taken for granted or even attacked by some. In this second lesson, we are jumping into one of the big reasons family leaders are vitally important. They want their offspring to be safe, not scarred, not undermined or crippled. This sounds good but then we have to ask in practical terms how could this happen? Here is where we need some clarification.

Much of harm done to kids does not happen by accident. Young people are vulnerable and there are many people ready to take advantage of them. That is why this chapter is on "wolves". Here we find people who are actually competing with family leaders for some kind of influence or control of the lives of their young family members.

Now obviously to even mention "wolves" is a big transition in a course like this. It is also a wake-up call for many family leaders. Don't all of us who are parents or grandparents want our youth unharmed and secure? We might think mainly of the peer pressure or drug dealers our teenagers face and those dangers are very real. However, this lesson expands that to consider all the different kinds of "wolves" that are out there.

This raises the bar for family leaders. By laying out the threats to young people at the very beginning of this course, this can help family leaders recognize just how important they are in their offspring's lives. All these different wolves can do damage to children that will affect their lives for decades. Yes, there are many good people helping our kids prepare for adulthood. One the other hand there are many others who have their different agendas, evil, subtle, effective.

As leader you have the challenge of going through the power point and questionnaire in such a way that the family leaders present recognize what they are up against. In spite of our culture and maybe even one's congregation not emphasizing the vital role of family leaders, we must face reality. Family leaders are the irreplaceable ones when it comes to protecting their offspring. Furthermore they are the only ones in the position of over the years, to be to equip their young people. We will get into this more in course two. Right now, we are simply saying, if you want your offspring to be safe and undamaged, it is really up to you to have a major impact within the eighteen some years you have them available to you.

As leader or facilitator make sure you do seven things.

- 1. Go back and review the Leader's Guide for Session One.
- 2. Prepare by filling out the questionnaire you have handed out on "wolves".
- 3. Read through the written material for Session Two.
- 4. Review the power point you will be going through with the class.
- 5. Write down any examples from your own life and thinking that touches on what this session is about.



6. Pray for each person in the course.

7. Print off the supplemental material of the different kinds of wolves and the questionnaire leading to Session 3 on Sheep. Both of these could be handed out. The one on wolves early and the questionnaire for Session Three at the end of the class.

Remember, if you have questions or concerns you can always call 612-708-1875 to discuss these.

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